(c) The product technology for Gugulipid has been licensed to Cipla on a non-exclusive basis and technology can be released to any other firms, if interested.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. Application for marketing Guggulu was received by Drug Controller (India) from only-the Director CDRI and the drug was cleared for marketing after its clinical trial was favourably completed in the country.

Assistance to shipping industry

1773. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE ANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to assist the shipping industry which is suffering from losses and becoming sick;

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) whether there is a proposal to take over the sick Shipping Companies on a temporary basis by the Shipping Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) and financial institutions/banks have set up a new company called Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India (SCICI) which would provide financial assistance to the shipping companies in the private sector on the basis of the viability of their proposals. In the case of sick shipping companies, the matter would be considered on a case to case basis and suitable rehabilitation packages would be evolved by the SCICI if the company was found to be potentially viable. Financial assistance would be provided broadly on the rates hitherto being charged by the Shipping Development Fund Committee.

(c) No, sir, At present there is no such proposal.

Payment of laying tram-tracks to West Bengal Government by Metro Railway Authorities

1774. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Metro Railway Authorities have not paid the cost of laying tram-tracks to the West Bengal Government in the Bhawanipur area in Calcutta;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the State Government has decided to move the court for the realisation of the amount from the Metro Railway Authorities; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) In terms of the Project Report for Metro Railway Calcutta, which was accepted by the West Bengal State Government, tram services are not required to be restored on the corridors which would be served by Metro Railway and no payment is due to the West Bengal State Government on this account.

(c) No communication to this effect has been received from the State Government.

(d) Does not arise.

Appointment of private security agencies by metro railway authorities in Calcutta

1775. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Metro Railway authorities in Calcutta have decided to appoint private security agencies for manning its security wing;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Railway Board has cleared this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The proposal of Metro Railway, Calcutta is for utilising guards from recognised private agencies for manning of entry gates of Metro stations for functions which are not the normal duties of Railway Protection Force.

(c) This matter lies within the powers of the Calcutta Metro Railway Administration.

Routes operated by Vayudoot

1776. SHRIMTI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the various routes operated and States covered by Vayudoot services at present; and

(b) if so, whether any more towns in Andhra Pradesh are likely to be connected by this airline in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) a statement showing the names of the routes operated an dthe States covered by Vaydoot as Annexure. [*See* appendir CXLI, Annexure No. 73].

(b) No, Sir.

Estrogen-progestrone drugs are highly hazardous

1777. SHRI THANGABALU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that estrogen-progestrone drugs are highly hazardous; and

(b) if so, the reasons for allowing the marketing of such drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). The Government has initiated action to prohibit manufacture and sale of combination of estrogen-progretrone (extent for oral contraceptive). Some of the manufacturers have gone to court for redress. The Supreme Court has given directions to Drug Controller (India) for public hearing on the subject and based on evidence take a decision on the subject of continued marketing of these drugs. The public hearing is in progress.

Upkeep of traditional Indian Apparels kept in Indian Museums

1778. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that traditional Indian apparels kept in Indian museums and elsewhere are in bad shape due to poor conservation techniques; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take for the safety and long life of these precious apparels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) "Museum" is a State subject. Maintenance of the objects is the responsibility of the respective managements.

Museums under the Department of Culture have reported that traditional Indian apparel kept in the museums is conserved properly with modern techniques of conservation. The museums where this precious apparel is kept, are well equipped with conservation laboratories manned by trained personnel. Insecticidal treatment is given against biological insects. Periodically, vacum cleaners are used. Whether on display or in storage, these are kept under regulated conditions of temperature and humidity in order to prolong their life.